



PROFESSIONAL  
FELLOWS



**\*\*U.S. Exchange Program Opportunity\*\***  
**Professional Exchange Program: Legislative Fellows**  
**U.S. Department of State/Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs**  
**PROGRAM SUMMARY**

**Implementing Organization:** *Heartland International*, a nonprofit organization in Chicago, Illinois, USA in partnership with Neighborhoods Association IDMAJ in Casablanca, Morocco and El Sadat Association in Cairo, Egypt. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of State/Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

**Description:** The [Professional Fellows Program](#) brings emerging leaders from around the world to the United States for intensive short-term fellowships designed to broaden their professional expertise. Participants are placed in non-profit organizations, private sector businesses, and government offices across the country to learn first-hand how issues in their field are addressed in the United States. Participants build a broad network with both their American colleagues and their fellow participants. The program also provides an opportunity for Fellows to develop a deeper understanding of American society. Thousands of Americans host, work with, and learn from the foreign fellows while they are in the United States. The second phase of the Professional Fellows Programs involves the selection of Americans to participate in official follow-up programs overseas, in conjunction with the fellows they hosted in the United States.

**Program Period:** September 2012 – February 2013

**Participation Requires:**

- Participating in a 4-week online course in September, 2012, focused on U.S. government and federalism.
- Travel to the U.S. (Chicago and Washington, D.C.) for 4-5 weeks in October/November 2012 for the Fellowship program and living with a host family.
- Developing a legislative and/or policy-based project to be implemented upon your return home.
- Working with and possibly hosting American participants when they visit Morocco or Egypt in January 2013 for two weeks.
- Remaining engaged and active throughout the program period stated above.
- Participating as a program alumnus after the program ends.

**Fellowship Program in Chicago:** Each participant will be placed in an NGO or political office to provide first-hand experience of the inner, day-to-day workings of a U.S. workplace and to provide an opportunity to form work and personal relationships with U.S. co-workers. Representative offices include state senators and representatives, NGO's that focus on policy and advocacy work, and civic education organizations. Training on topics of interest will also be provided based on group needs.

**Travel and Training Costs:** All participant travel and training costs will be paid for by the U.S. Department of State and other funding sources, as available.

**To Apply Contact:** Ms. Malaka Refai at El Sadat Association, Egypt at [LFPEgypt@gmail.com](mailto:LFPEgypt@gmail.com)

Ms. Julia Sportolari at Heartland International at [julia@heartlandinternational.org](mailto:julia@heartlandinternational.org);

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 11, 2012

Heartland International, its partners and the U.S. Department of State are seeking a diverse pool of program participants and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, medical condition, citizenship, ancestry, or marital status. All interested and qualified persons are encouraged to apply.